



## CHALLENGES FACED BY FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNERS AND THEIR SOLUTIONS

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**Abstract.** This article discusses the challenges faced by English learners today and their possible solutions.

**Keywords:** vocabulary work, grammar difficulties, pronunciation problems, interactive, quiz, mnemonics, contextual, flashcards, chat, blog.

### INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the demand for and interest in learning English is very high, with learners ranging from preschool children to adult professionals. This is a positive trend because language learning not only develops linguistic skills but also provides an opportunity to understand the culture, history, and traditions of English-speaking countries.

English is currently the most widely learned language and plays a crucial role in international communication, technology, art, and tourism. Many countries teach it as a global language. Despite the development of modern intensive methods, certain difficulties persist in the language learning process [1].

### METHODOLOGY

Learners often struggle with expanding their vocabulary, understanding grammar, improving pronunciation, and achieving fluency in speaking. Vocabulary plays a key role in foreign language acquisition. Learning new words consists of four stages:



differentiation, understanding the meaning, memorization, and reinforcement/expansion. The differentiation stage involves distinguishing sounds and letters, which helps in speaking, listening, reading, and writing by enabling learners to pronounce words correctly and understand them when reading or hearing them. Understanding meaning involves linking words to their references. The memorization stage is about retaining the meanings of words. Reinforcement and expansion refer to integrating new vocabulary into the learner's existing system.

Fluency, accurate expression of thoughts, and communication in different contexts depend directly on vocabulary knowledge. Even if grammar and phonetics are well understood, communication becomes difficult without sufficient vocabulary. Therefore, reinforcing words, learning them in contextual settings, and actively using them are essential parts of the language learning process [2].

## **DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

Difficulties in foreign language learning largely depend on learners' native language, study methods, and personal characteristics. Below are some common problems and solutions.

### **1. Challenges in Expanding Vocabulary**

One of the main difficulties is remembering new words and using them in practice. Solutions include:

Learning words in sentences and contexts rather than in isolation.

Using flashcards, mobile applications, and mnemonics.

Acquiring new words naturally through reading and listening.

### **2. Difficulties in Learning Grammar**

Memorizing grammar rules and using them correctly can be challenging. Since the grammar of a foreign language can be very different from the learner's native language, understanding it may be difficult. Solutions include:

Learning grammar through practical communication rather than theoretical study.

Explaining rules using examples and contextual exercises.



Using interactive games, quizzes, and tests.

### 3. Pronunciation Problems

Many learners struggle to pronounce new sounds correctly because they do not exist in their native language [3]. Solutions include:

Improving listening skills using audio and video materials.

Observing and imitating native speakers.

Practicing phonetic exercises based on linguistic principles.

### 4. Challenges in Speaking and Communication

Many learners, despite having a good command of grammar and vocabulary, struggle with speaking due to a lack of confidence or practice. Solutions include:

Using self-speaking techniques.

Regularly engaging in English conversations (language clubs, online chats, voice recording exercises).

Keeping a daily journal or blog in English.

### 5. Difficulties in Listening Comprehension

Understanding fast speech in a new language can be difficult for learners, especially due to accents and speech speed. Solutions include:

Regularly listening to audio and video materials.

Starting with simple texts and gradually moving to more complex conversations.

Using subtitles initially and then transitioning to listening without them.

### 6. Fear of Making Mistakes

Many learners hesitate to speak or write because they fear making mistakes. Solutions include:

Understanding that mistakes are a natural part of learning and using them as an opportunity for improvement.

Engaging in continuous practice and learning from mistakes.

Practicing with teachers or friends to build confidence.

### 7. Lack of Motivation and Time



Learning a foreign language requires time and dedication, and many learners lose interest or struggle to allocate time. Solutions include:

Creating a structured learning plan and integrating it into daily life.

Using interesting and useful materials (books, movies, podcasts).

Celebrating achievements and rewarding oneself to maintain motivation.

#### 8. Unfamiliar Culture and Language Differences

Language learning also involves understanding the culture of its speakers. Some phrases and customs may seem unfamiliar or unusual to learners [4]. Solutions include:

Conducting cultural research alongside language studies.

Communicating with native speakers to understand their culture and mentality

Observing real-life speech examples in films and books.

These are the main problems faced by foreign language learners and their solutions.

Each learner should find and apply the most suitable methods to learn the language efficiently and effectively.

### CONCLUSION

The process of learning a foreign language consists of several stages, and its effectiveness depends on vocabulary knowledge, grammar proficiency, pronunciation skills, and communication practice. By utilizing various interactive methods, innovative technologies, and linguistic approaches, the language learning process can be made more efficient.

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